Advertisement Code of Doordarshan also prohibits such advertisements.

Filling up the vacancies in Prasar Bharati Board

842. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the activities of the Prasar Bharati Board are being carried out by a single Government officer;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for not filling up the vacancies of 15 member Board; and

(c) by when these vacancies are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

SC/ST Officers sent for foreign training

843. VEN'BLE DHAMMAVIRIYO: Will the MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government nominate Officers for training in foreign Institutions for imporoving their academic, managerial, administrative and technical skills at the cost of the public exchequer;

(b) if so, the number of Officers from her Ministry sent abroad for both the short-term and long-term training courses abroad during the last five years, year-wise;

(c) the number of officers belonging to the SC/ST category among them; and

(d) the reasons if adequate number of SC/ST officers have not nominated for the said training?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Department of Personnel & Training invites nominations every year from eligible officers for long-term and short-term training courses abroad. The Government bears expenditure towards airport tax and expenditure involved in the

training is borne by the respective Governments, where the training is held.

(b) During the last 5 years two officers were sent for long-term training and two officers were sent for short-term training from this Ministry.

(c) One of the two officers selected for the long-term training course belonged to S.C. category.

(d) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting recommended all the eligible applicants to Department of Personnel & Training, who are the nodal agency for sponsoring the candidates. Only officer SC category had applied and he was sent abroad for long-term training course.

Production of programmes broadcast on Doordarshan

844. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that production of programmes to be broadcast on Doordarshan is carried out by the non-departmental persons;

(b) if so, the details of programmes produced by departmental/ non-departmental persons during the year 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000, separately; and

(c) the amount given annually to non-departmental persons for production of these programmes during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Programmes for Doordarshan are produced by departmental as well as non-departmental persons.